

*Carman
in
Half Tone*

CARMAN IN HALF TONE



A SOUVENIR OF THE FOREST TOWN OF MANITOBA

SITUATED IN A BEAUTIFUL GROVE OF OAKS, ELMS AND MAPLES, ON THE BANKS OF THE
BOYNE RIVER, AND THE CENTRE OF A FERTILE PRAIRIE DISTRICT

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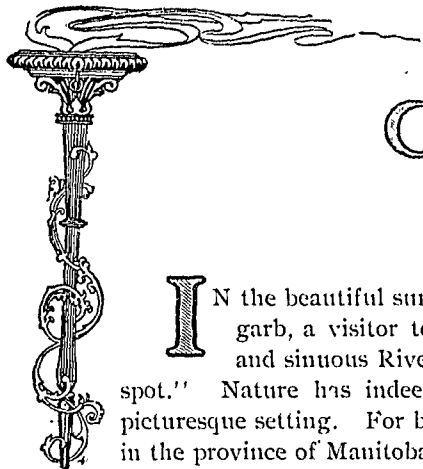
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CARMAN

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IN the beautiful summer days when tree and life and shrub put on their loveliest garb, a visitor to the town of Carman—nestling on the banks of the encircling and sinuous River Boyne—never fails to utter this remark, "Why, what a lovely spot." Nature has indeed endowed the location very liberally with a most picturesque setting. For beauty of location Carman is not excelled by any town in the province of Manitoba. Sheltered and embowered by a magnificent belt of oaks, ash, maple, poplar and basswood, it is difficult to realize it is a prairie town, and that part of the townsite was a few years ago the primal forest which fringes the banks for some distance on either side from the river. So proud are its citizens of its groves of forest trees they preserve the original ones as far as possible and for this reason some of the principal residential streets look like broad avenues lined with tall and stately trees, while here and there beautiful vistas of river and woodland scenery give variety and charm to the general surroundings. This feature has gained for the town a widely extending reputation as a resort for excursions and picnics. Being situated only fifty-seven miles from Winnipeg, every summer finds a great number of its citizens leaving their business and cares behind for a day's enjoy-



ment and recreation amid Carman's glades and groves and, anon, a promenade through the arched and embowered walks which wind about in the most unconventional and irregular manner.

Until the year 1871 the whole district surrounding Carman was unbroken prairie. Today the homes and shops of busy hundreds rise as a monument to the pluck and perseverance of the pioneers who made the broad and fertile prairie to yield abundantly of that golden treasure which has brought blessing and comfort to those who have followed them.

In 1879 a few families had located on the present town site forming the nucleus of the future town, and they set about choosing a name for it. After considerable discussion it was named Carman City, in honor to Rev. Dr. Carman, General Superintendent of the Methodist church in Canada. A year later a few who thought the name savored too much of sectionalism, endeavored to have it changed to Oakville, but those favoring the original choice prevailed. The presumptive appellation of city was by common consent dropped, and is now almost forgotten to have ever been applied to the place.

Carman is situated in the centre of one of the most fertile districts in the province, in what is known as the Red River Valley. The sheltering Pembina mountain, to the west, has a marked beneficial influence over the climatic conditions that prevail in the locality. The district was formerly known and famed throughout the west as the "Boyne Settlement," taking its name from the river Boyne which flows through it. Some say that the river Boyne takes its name from the original one given to the stream "Riviere de Bois," or "River of the Woods," from the heavy forest which grows along its course, and that Boyne was evolved from, or rather a corruption of, the French word "Bois." The true origin of the present name arose through an incident which occurred during a prospecting tour of the first actual settlers who took up land and made their home on its banks. On Good Friday, in the spring of 1871, Mr. Samuel Kennedy, in

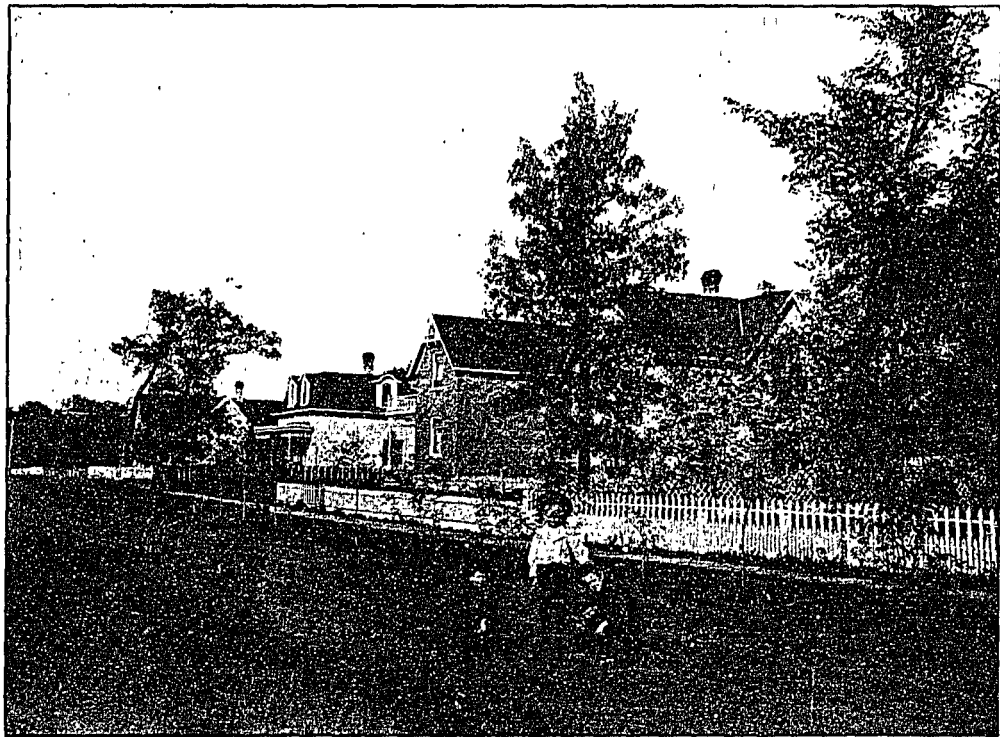
company with several other men who were looking for land for settlement, set out from Head-ingly for this locality. On Saturday a furious snow storm came on, and being on foot the party nearly perished from the cold and fatigue. After battling with the storm for some hours and being unable to proceed further from exhaustion they resolved to camp for the night, and by huddling close together were enabled from the heat of their bodies to keep from being frozen, although some members of the party were severely frost-bitten. Thus they spent the night and about daybreak on Easter morning, the storm having abated, one of the party observed woods in close proximity and sang out "Land! Land!" They quickly availed themselves of its shelter and soon a cheering fire was warming their hearts and limbs. One of the party, in the exuberance of his spirits, induced by the improved condition of their situation, exclaimed "Victory! Victory!" when Kennedy, who was an enthusiastic Orangeman, pointed to the river—on the banks of which they had kindled their fire—and added "and the Boyne," and the Boyne it has been to this day. Mr. Kennedy chose his homestead in the vicinity of where the incident occurred and is still living (1903) within a few hundred yards of the exact spot at which he named the river. His wife and his son's wife were the first and only white women residing between the Boyne and the Dakota boundary for some months after their arrival in the settlement.

In the pioneer days all supplies had to be teamed in from Winnipeg, a distance of nearly sixty miles, or from Emerson, some forty miles. The development of the country and the rich resources of the district surrounding the town claimed the attention of the railway companies, and the town now receives its supplies through two railways, and the distance that formerly consumed days in wearisome travel is now covered in as many hours.

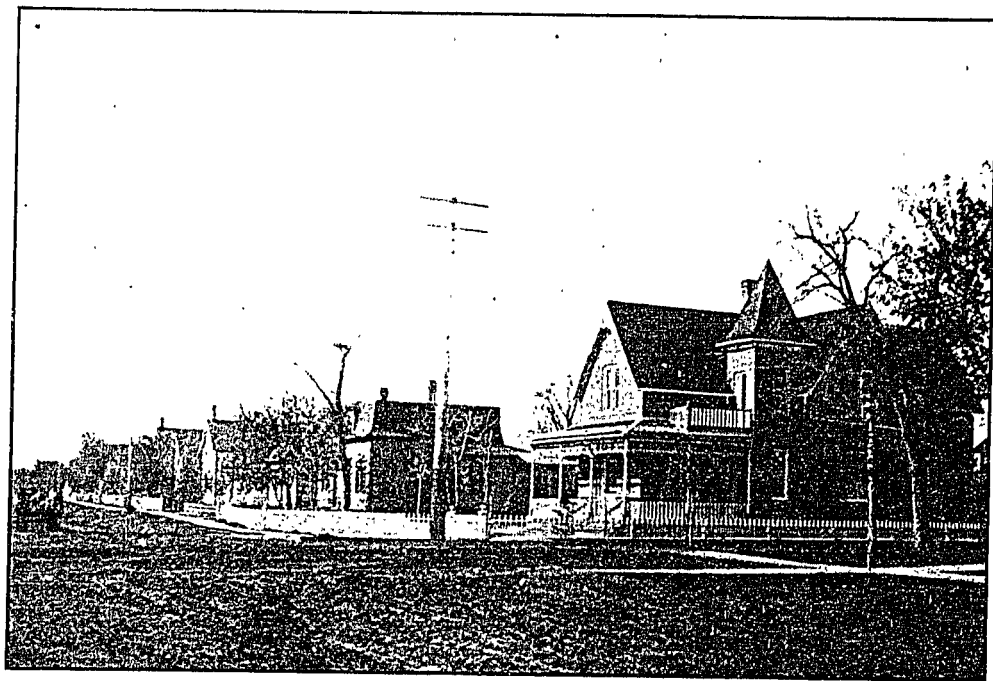
The purpose of this little Souvenir is intended to illustrate more particularly the beauty of the town for location, rather than from a commercial standpoint, and to emphasize its claims to the title of the "Forest Town" of Manitoba.



The home of the first white settler in Carman District, 1871, living still on his original homestead.
The house stands on the bank of the river a short distance from the exact spot
where he named the river Boyne.



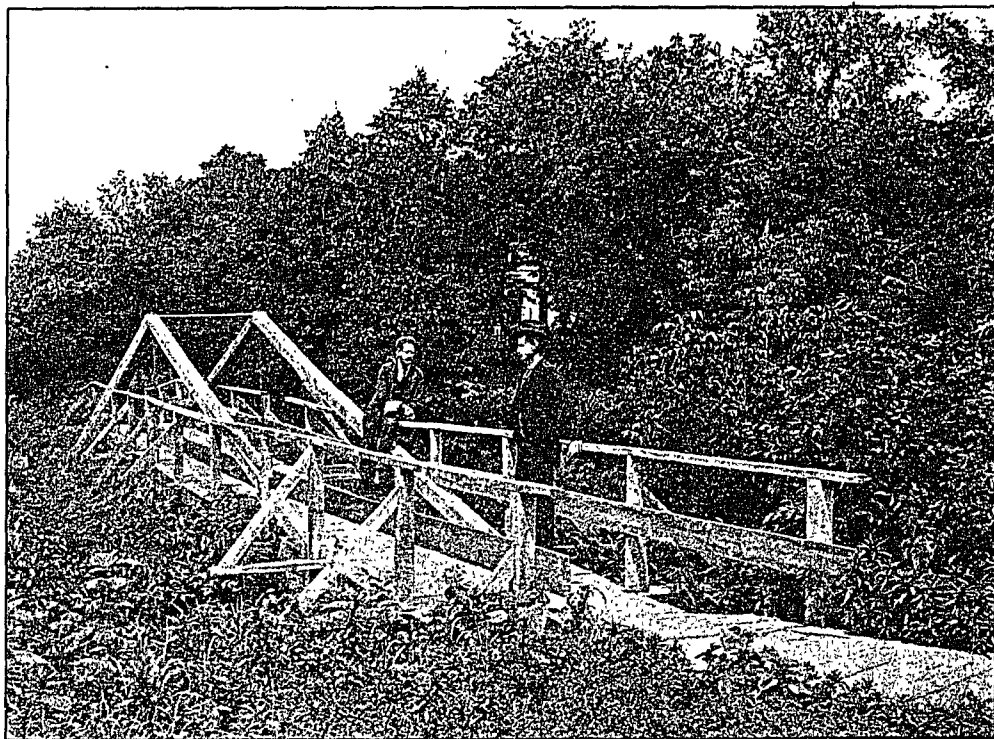
Where primal oaks and houses meet : Hammond Avenue.



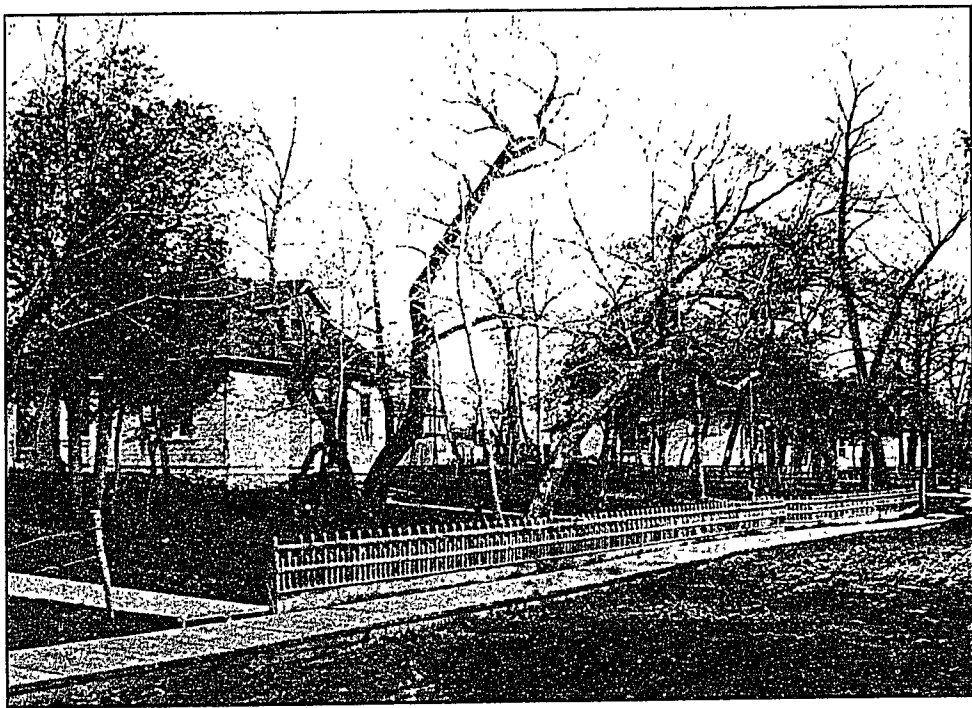
Residences, west side of Hammond avenue, looking south from Walnut street.



Hammond avenue homes as seen looking north from Walnut street.



Foot-bridge to the Island, foot of Villard avenue. The island homes are hidden by the original forest trees.



Some Island homes 'mid gnarled oaks.



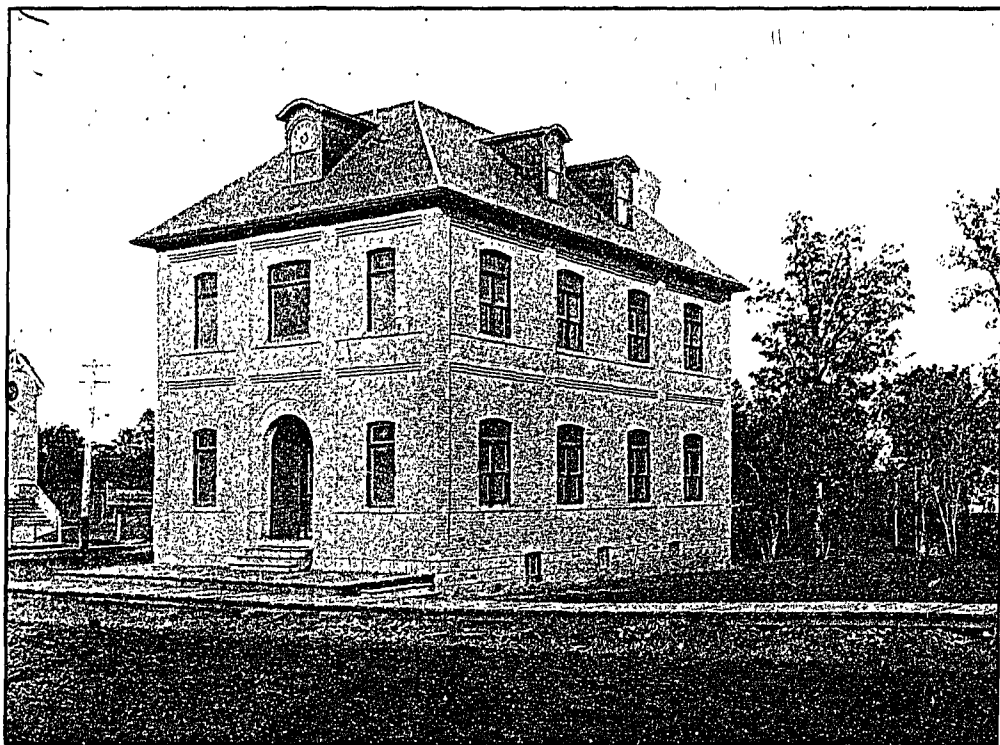
Some of the substantial residences on Browning avenue.



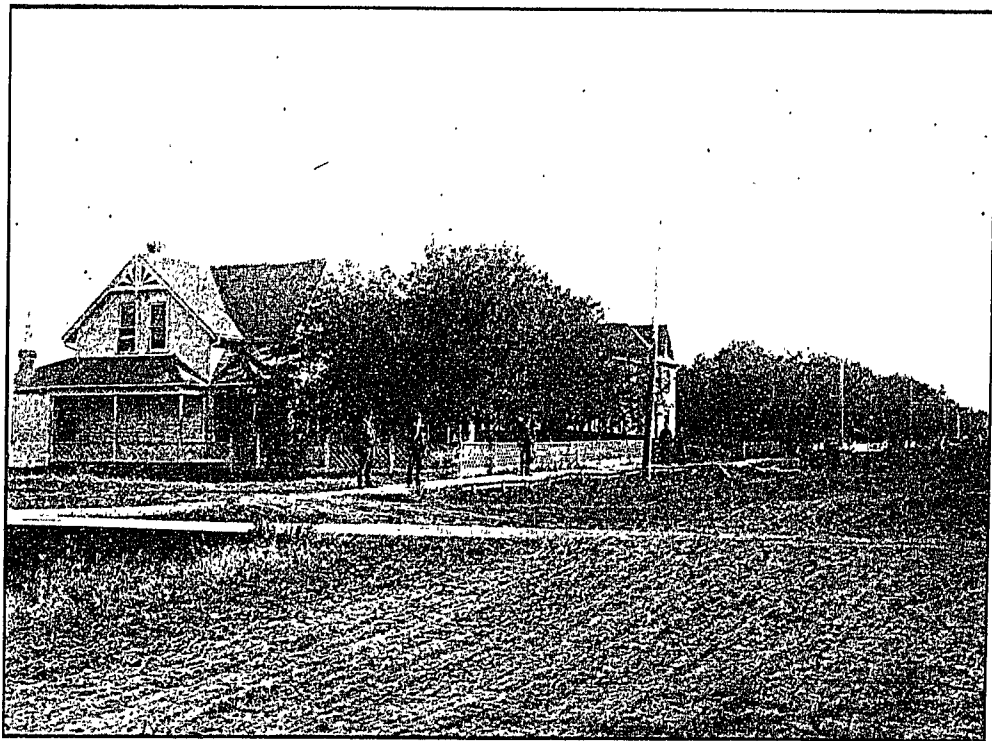
Canadian Northern Railway Depot : Waiting for the train.



Browning avenue residents are proud of their tree-embowered lawns.



Provincial Land Titles office. Originally erected as a Disciple College, the first of its kind in Canada.



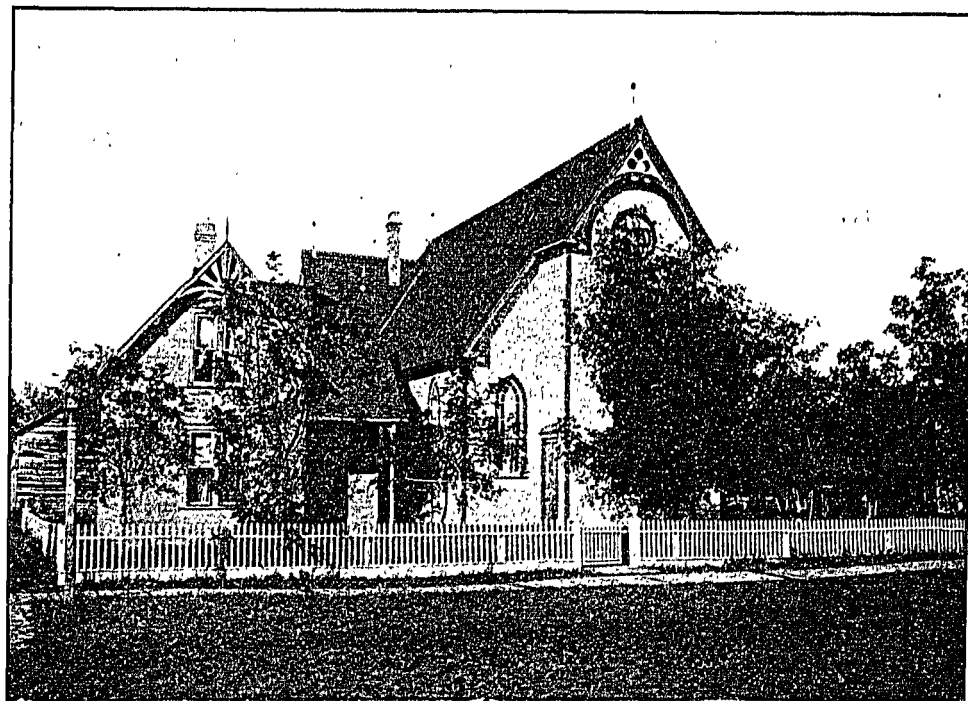
Here cosy homes retreat behind the sheltering trees : Villard avenue, looking south from Ash street.



Some business blocks on Fournier avenue.



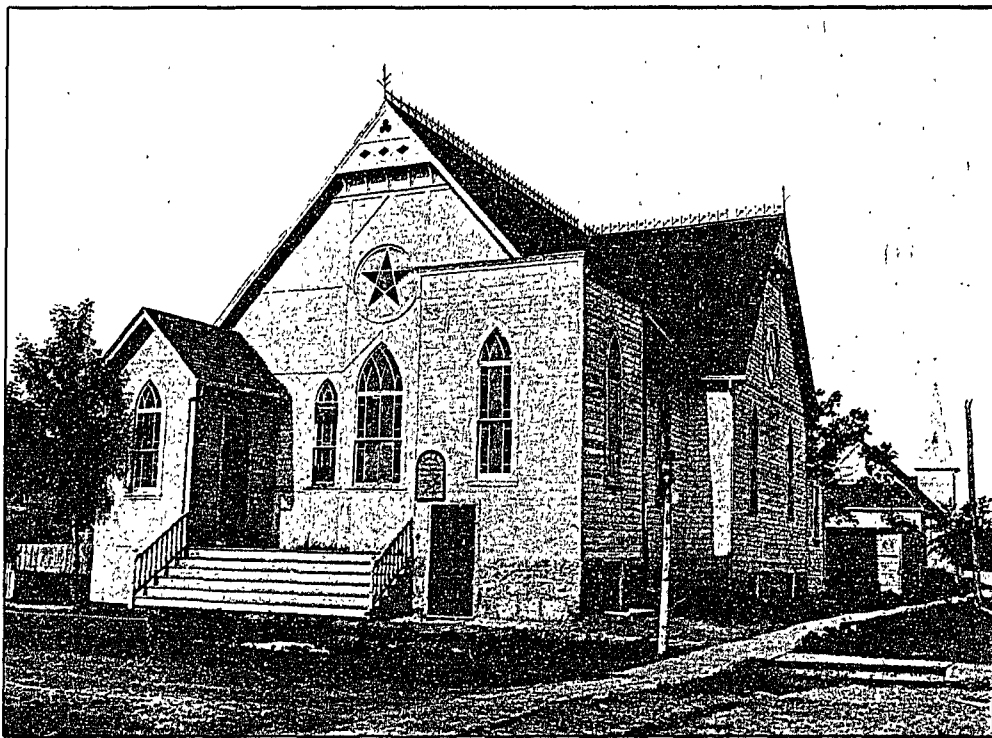
Reflections religious and secular : Presbyterian church and Land Titles office as reflected in the Boyne.



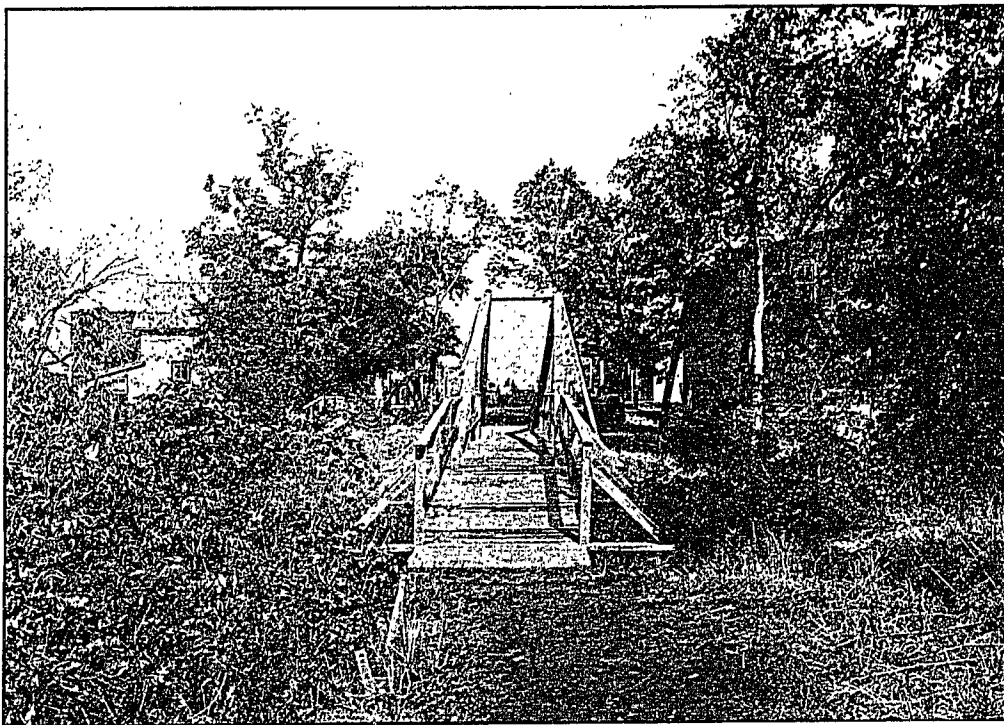
St. John's Episcopal Church and Parsonage.



On the Boyne : Where spritely beauty, mirrored in the stream, hides coyly 'tween the living walls of green.



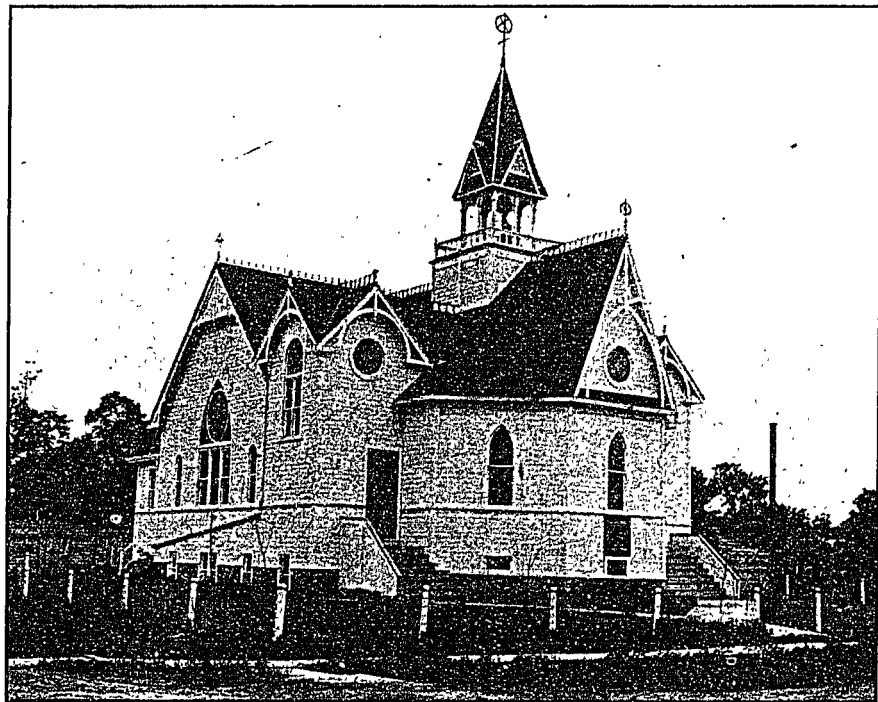
Methodist Church, corner of Fournier avenue and Ash street.



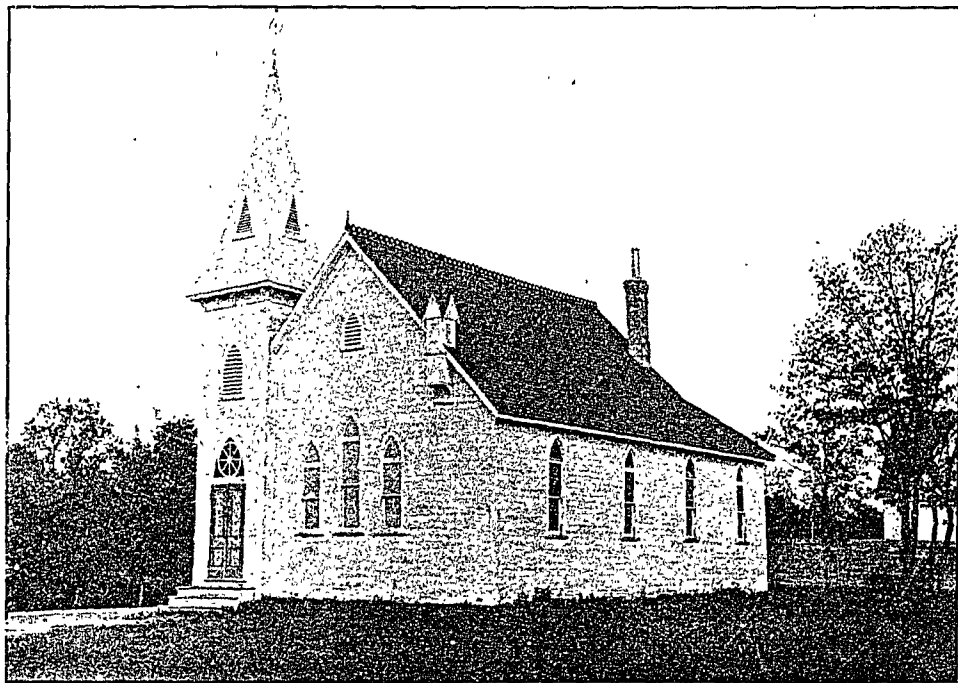
One of the several foot bridges that span the sinuous Boyne, Fournier avenue.



Browning avenue, west side, looking north.



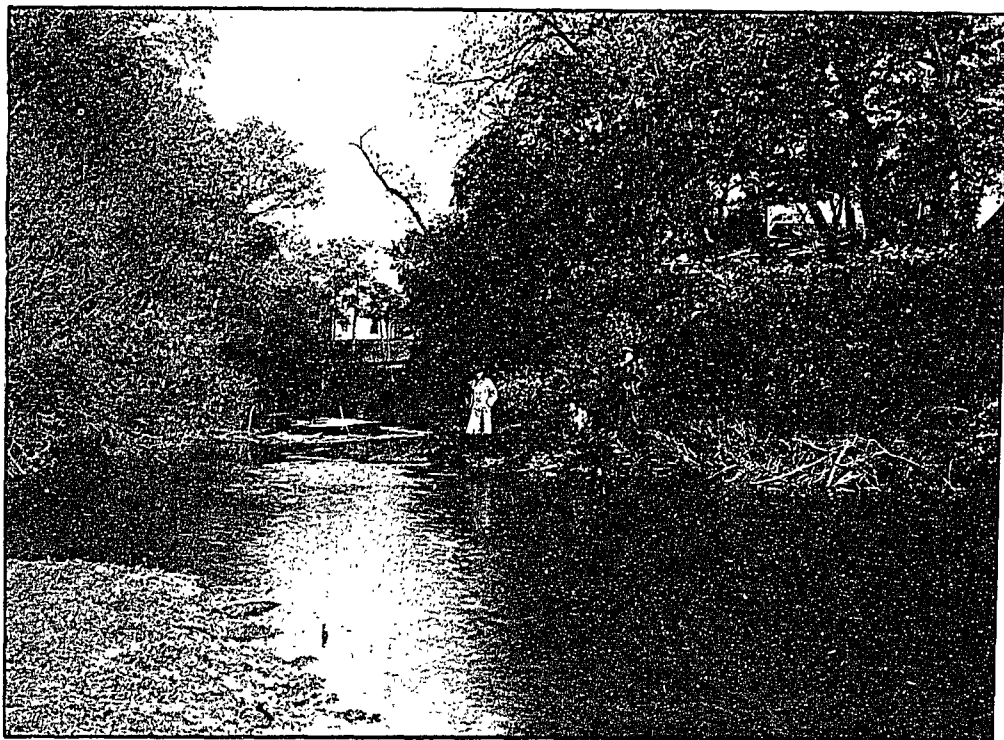
St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, corner of Browning avenue and Walnut street.



Baptist Church, corner of Browning avenue and Ash street.



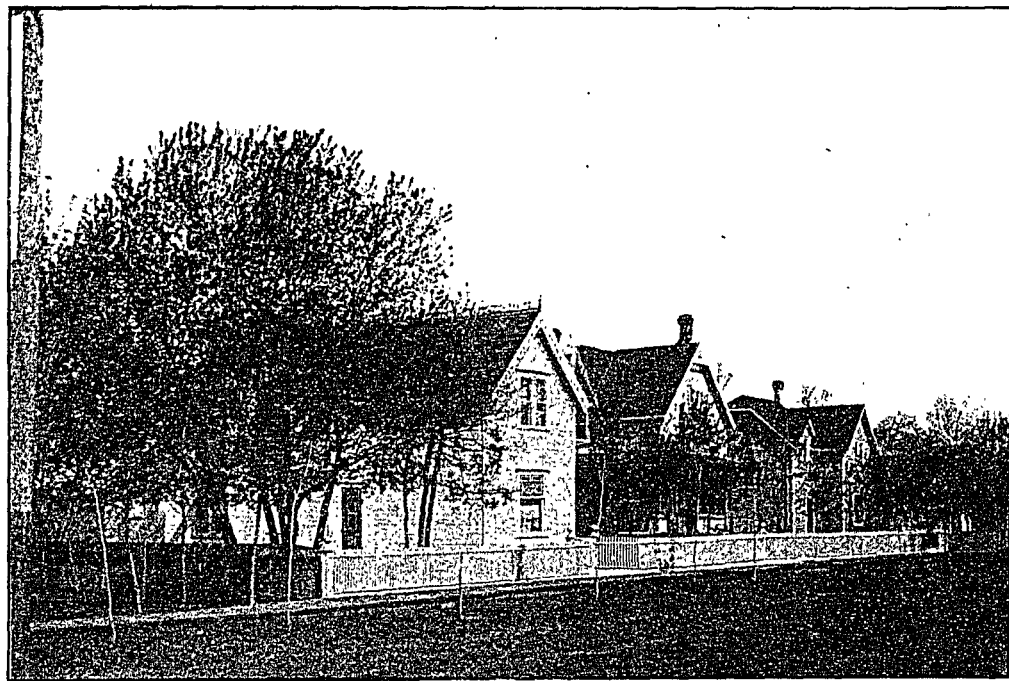
One of the many pretty sylvan retreats on the banks of the Boyne.



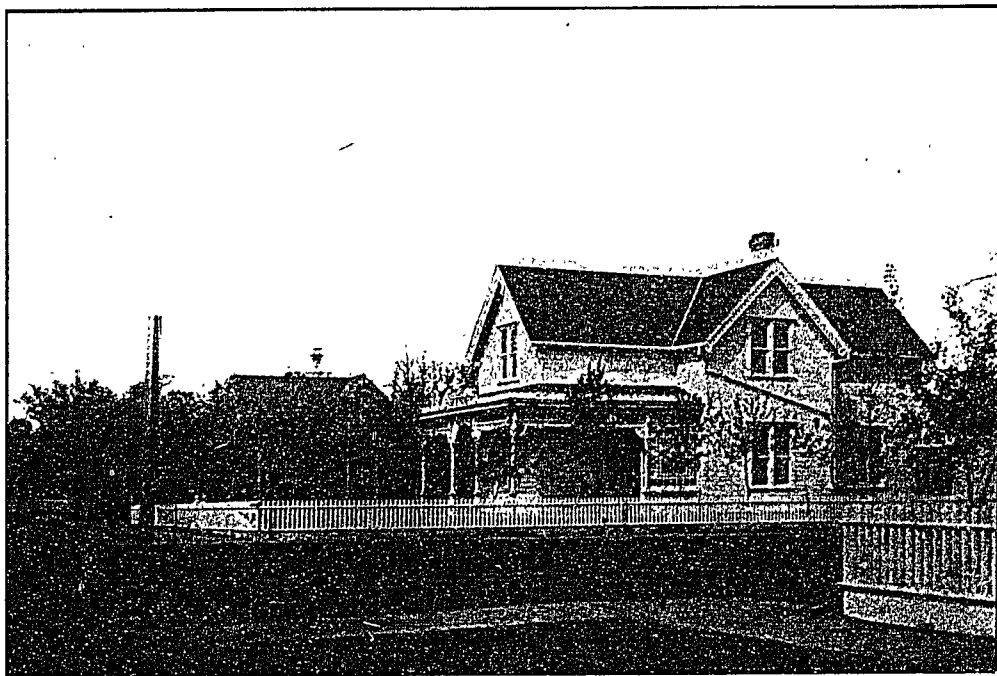
On the Boyne : An artist's dream, where arching skies blend their hues upon the foreground
and every river bend presents new beauties to the eye.



The Post Office, Leader Block and Noble Block, Villard avenue. The Post Office is the first in the row.



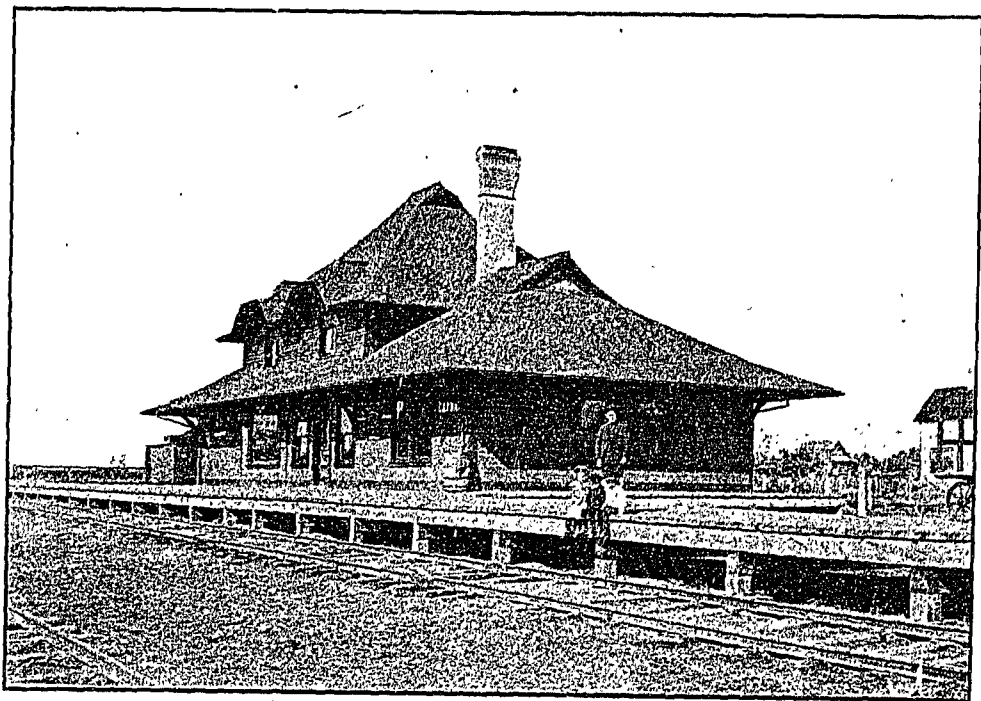
Part of west side of Hammond avenue, looking north toward the river.



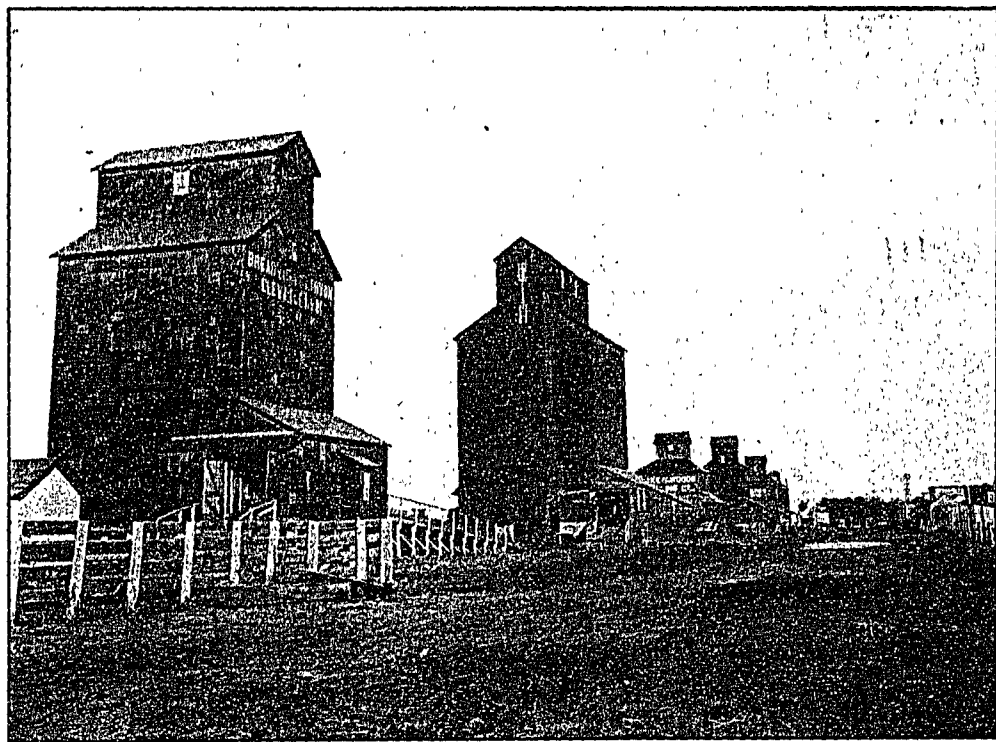
The parting of the ways : Less than thirty rods to the right from this corner or to the rear will be found groves of sturdy oaks.



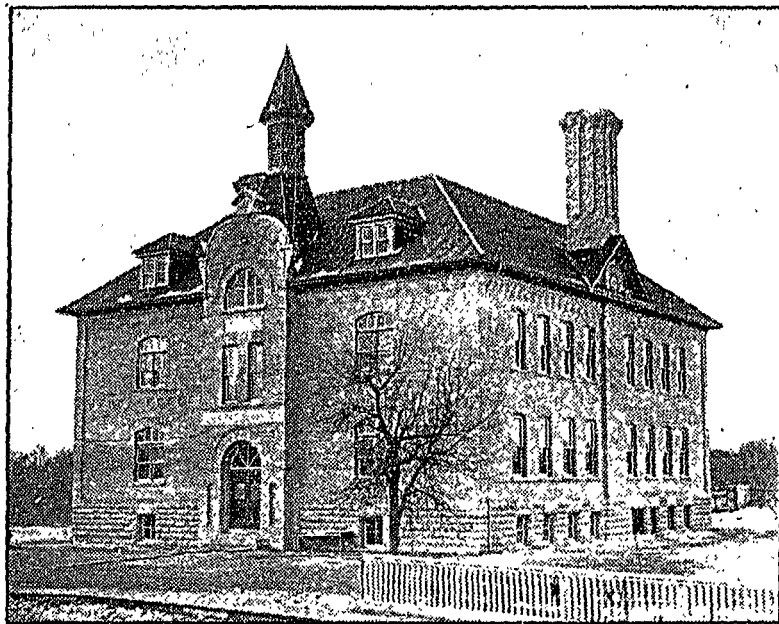
Another view of Browning avenue.



Canadian Pacific Railway Depot : After the train has gone.



Where some of Carman's wealth is stored : Seven grain elevators, capacity, a quarter million bushels.



Carman Public School : With no exception one of the most modern and best equipped schools in the province, having eight class-rooms, an assembly room seating 600 persons, a library and a laboratory, also basement play-rooms, heated by Smead-Dowl system. Cost \$30,000. This view was taken shortly after construction and before the grounds were leveled or fenced.



Part of east side of Hammond avenue, looking south.



A bit of woodland scenery within fifteen minutes walk from one of Carman's principal streets.